

10/087,024

Patent Application Serial No. 08/981,110, filed March 13, 1998, now United States Patent No. 6,242,381, issued on June 5, 2001, which is a 371 of PCT/EP96/02789 filed June 24, 1996

The marked-up version of the replacement paragraph is attached on a separate

sheet.

**REMARKS**

The specification has been amended herewith so as to correctly reflect priority.

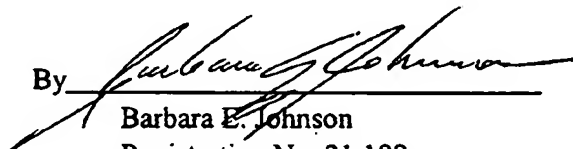
Notwithstanding a United States Patent and Trademark Office annotation regarding a possible inconsistency, the priority recitation above is correct and is consistent with the Official Filing Receipt.

The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees required by 37 CFR § 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 23-0650. Please refund any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-0650.

Respectfully submitted,

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